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of the Physical Sciences, an Introduction to the History of Science, and a probable fourth volume on the Applications of Science.

It has often been emphasized that the history of science can not be taught because of its encyclopedic extent. This objection can be overruled. It is true that we can not all be a Leibnitz, or possess minds of the type of his; however, in our modern methods of training or in specialized education, we may at least obtain the broadest viewpoint possible—through historical methods and their perspective, and withal, historical inspiration.<sup>17</sup> The principles of history have a criterion based upon scientific methods, just like any other subject of study intended for philosophical interpretation. This must be recognized by the future historian of science.

And when the historian of science is fully imbued with the "Geist und Leitmotiv of human learning," then, and only then, can the history of science be of value, and be possessed of a future. The final message of the history of science is to show the high plane of science—that which has given life, stability, truth and wealth—in its universal activities and its established international character as the arbiter of the future of man and of peace.

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<sup>17</sup> See "Outlines of the Principles of History," by Johann G. Droysen (1897), trans. by E. B. Andrews, pp. 9–58.

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#### THE COMMITTEE ON POLICY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE committee met at 5 P.M., on November 15, in the room of the New York Academy of Sciences, American Museum of Natural History, New York City (continued later at the Hotel Majestic), with Messrs. Pickering, Paton, Woodward, Noyes, Fairchild, Cattell and Howard present.

The preliminary announcement and arrangements for the Columbus meeting were considered. It was recommended that public addresses be worded so as not to allude to the present war in a way which might give offense. Dr. W. W. Campbell, president of the association, was appointed as delegate and Dr. L. O. Howard, permanent secretary, as alternate to the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress. The question of the relation of the association to the congress was referred to a special committee consisting of Messrs. Woodward, Howard and Humphreys.

Mr. Pickering submitted a report of progress for the committee on expert testimony.

Mr. Woodward submitted a report on the Coburn bequest.

Other matters considered by the committee and its recommendations will be submitted to the council at the Columbus meeting of the association.

At 9.30 P.M. the committee adjourned.

L. O. HOWARD,  
Secretary

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

As was stated in *SCIENCE* last week, the Nobel prize in chemistry for 1914 has been awarded to Professor Theodore William Richards, of Harvard University, and the prize in physics to Professor Max von Laue, of Frankfurt-on-Main, for his work on the diffraction of rays in crystals. The prize in medicine has been awarded to Dr. Robert Barany, of